

The Stone copied from a
Ms. by Mrs. Atwood.

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What is the Philosopher's Stone but the crystallised
Akasa, transmuted, or Transmuting itself by itself until
it has reached an immortal concrete extreme: not
Alpha only but the Omega, having passed through the
total ordeal of manifest creation? And as respects the
Philosopher's Gold, why need we conclude that there is
nothing substantive in the Light that may be evolved
through ^{a life} divinely organised out of, and upon, its galvanic
basis until it shall proceed as the in the
Poem of 'Ravan'.

Do not seek experimentally or institute physical inquiry.

Very few are equipped by nature for the carrying on of
the first work of philosophic evolution to its true end,
while to neglect the Logistic Aim is destructive of the
soul engaged. The Hermetic process begins when Nature
leaves off, as we are told, purifying the vital spirits by
and in its own intimate Light when this Criterion is
found; the natural soul shrinks and becomes as darkness
in conscious contrast with the archetypal Law which is
confurcatingly set in her midst.

The process of vital purification is lifelong — once inflicted
 (as Plato says) the 'orbicular wound' is never healed in
 this life: the self-severance remains as may be
 further noted in the ^{Apostolic} ~~Epistolary~~ Letters: the process of
 regeneration is never perfected here: only a nexus
 may be accomplished in varying degree as knit on
 the core of ~~life~~ faith, love & hope that cannot be
 broken. Such ^{a nexus} is the purpose of the Hermetic Arts to
 establish. Divine Wisdom knows how by crucifixion or
 differentiation of our Karma to prepare the way of
 redemption so that the 'body of sin' in the blood
 may become circularly transmuted & by degrees built
 up into a new spiritual concrete organism: which,
 superseding the need of this gross body or 'coat of skins',
 will survive the wreck of antecedents and continuously
 thereafter feeding on its Intercessory Universal
 Accomplishment, belong to an everlasting Kingdom &
 recreated life eternal. ~~not phantasmal & no~~
~~return to uncreated being therefore defeating the~~
~~purpose of creation, but a concrete synthesis~~

Alchemy is the reverse of what is now called 'Occultism' if by such a barbarous term is meant a disavowed dealing with the cosmic ether on the astral plane where folly meets confusion by mediumistic venturing, finding no truth. The first purpose of the first philosophy was to reduce & ablate & re-shape this vehicle for 'if the place of the evil pass not away, then it cannot come that is sown with the good. All is in Mercury that the wise men seek : i.e. in the cosmic ether which under certain conditions was taken in hand : changes were brought about which are designated by terms now so derided ; ^{very} their salt, sulphur, mercury, magnesia, antimony, arsenic & the rest, which were and are, I infer, indigenous to their universal subject in its metamorphosis out of the galvanic to the mineral basis of our threefold existence : which contains the whole of nature in a rudimentary form & is capable of completion according to the culture rationally bestowed upon it. Such is the Philosopher's Stone, an adamantene achievement, foreshadowing the future & the destiny origin & final cause of mankind.

Many profound thinkers & those well experienced in the process of regeneration have been thorough Christians in the fullest meaning of the term. Little or nothing is now known of the method of the old 'associative' theory, of the celebration of mysteries in the early Church, neither will those who have direct insight towards these celebrations be in any hurry for a vulgar revival. Rather should ^{we} be content to wait for the ripening up of conditions towards another fulfilment under the ~~for~~ Providential order in which we shall believe & trust, if indeed we have any part in such insight as is required towards fulfilment.

While philosophers of old dealt with man and his life almost exclusively & less with dead matter, it need not be concluded that therefore they had no fruit for their labour of a material as well as of a spiritual degree: since all nature is an outcome of spirit which re-evolves with usury at every plane of successive advance, and gold and adamant

& all precious things are an outcome of the rarity &
density of that very Nature that we now subserve.

~~And~~